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REPORT
 CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Poland
 SUBJECT Economic - Sabotage
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily, thrice-weekly newspapers
 WHERE PUBLISHED Warsaw; Mannheim
 DATE PUBLISHED 4 - 27 Nov 1949
 LANGUAGE Polish

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 8 Mar 1950

NO. OF PAGES 1

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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ECONOMIC SABOTEURS GIVEN HEAVY SENTENCES

TWO CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT, ARSON -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 283, 27 Nov 49

While on circuit, the Katowice Appellate Court tried Jozef Budniok and Maria Herok at Bielsko. The defendants were charged with setting fire to the Peasant Self-Help Cooperative store in Zarzeca, Bielsko Powiat, with 900,000 zlotys' damage. The trial disclosed that Jozef Budniok, ex-manager of the cooperative, and Maria Herok, a clerk at the cooperative, were guilty of embezzlement, and that, to destroy the evidence, Budniok persuaded Maria Herok to set fire to the cooperative store. In payment, Budniok offered Maria Herok 100,000 zlotys and eight pairs of silk stockings. Jozef Budniok was sentenced to life imprisonment and Maria Herok to 15 years' imprisonment.

TANNERY EMPLOYEES GET LONG PRISON TERMS -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 282, 26 Nov 49

A group of employees of Tannery No 4, including manager Stanislaw Kalinski and Jan Papiewski, chairman of the workers' council, were tried by the Special Court in Radom for defrauding the state of many million zlotys.

According to the testimony of witnesses, the defendants stole leather and illegally purchased hides for processing at plant expense. This resulted in the tannery's failure to fulfill the production plan for the second quarter 1949.

Stanislaw Kalinski and Jan Papiewski were sentenced to life imprisonment, Jerzy Krawczyk to 12 years, Aleksander Pawelski and Sylwester Babelewski to 10 years each, Jerzy Solarski to 8 years, and Aleksander Kaczyna, and Edward Czubinski to 5 years each. Two women, Jozefa Kowalska and Marja Matusiak, convicted of selling and repurchasing leather from the above, were sentenced to 10 and 7 years, respectively.

WYRZYSK STATION MASTER CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT -- Ostatnie Wiadomosci, No 124, 4 Nov 49

The Appellate Court in Bydgoszcz sentenced Leon Wietrzykowski, railroad station master in Wyrzysk, to 7 years' imprisonment. He was charged with embezzling one million zlotys of government funds and with attempting to escape abroad.

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